

Report of the Inspector of Mental Health Services 2009

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE	HSE Dublin North East
APPROVED CENTRE	St. Ita's Hospital Mental Health Services
CATCHMENT AREA	Dublin North
NUMBER OF WARDS	7
NAMES OF UNITS OR WARDS INSPECTED	Acute Unit Male Acute Unit Female
TOTAL NUMBER OF BEDS	125
CONDITIONS ATTACHED TO REGISTRATION	No
TYPE OF INSPECTION	Unannounced re-inspection
DATE OF INSPECTION	15 December 2009

PART ONE: QUALITY OF CARE AND TREATMENT SECTION 51 (1)(b)(i) MENTAL HEALTH ACT 2001

DESCRIPTION

St Ita's Hospital was a large old psychiatric hospital, situated in extensive grounds in North County Dublin. The purpose of this re-inspection was to inspect compliance of the approved centre with Article 15 of the Regulations (S.I. No.551 of 2006), by examining the individual care plans of residents admitted to the approved centre from the Kilbarrack East sector. In the previous inspection in August 2009, the approved centre did not achieve full compliance with this Article as no resident admitted from the Kilbarrack East sector had an individual care plan as defined in the Regulations. The service had undertaken to ensure that each resident had an individual care plan.

PART TWO: EVIDENCE OF COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATIONS, RULES AND CODES OF PRACTICE, AND SECTION 60, MHA 2001

2.2 EVIDENCE OF COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATIONS UNDER MENTAL HEALTH ACT 2001 SECTION 52 (d)

Article 15: Individual Care Plan

LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	DESCRIPTION	AUGUST 2009	DECEMBER 2009
Fully compliant	<i>Evidence of full compliance with this Regulation.</i>		
Substantial compliance	<i>Evidence of substantial compliance but improvement needed.</i>	X	X
Compliance initiated	<i>An attempt has been made to achieve compliance but significant progress is still needed.</i>		
Not compliant	<i>Service is unable to demonstrate structures or processes to be compliant with this Regulation.</i>		
Not inspected	<i>Inspection did not cover this Article.</i>		

Justification for this rating:

Acute Unit Male: The individual care plans of three residents from the Kilbarrack East sector were examined. Although it was encouraging that two residents had individual care plans, one resident did not.

Acute Unit Female: The individual care plans of three residents from the Kilbarrack East sector were examined. One resident had an individual care plan, two did not. It was reported by nursing staff that they had brought up this issue several times with the relevant consultant psychiatrist during team meetings; documentary evidence of this was examined by the Inspectorate and a photocopy was taken.

Breach: Article 15

SECTION THREE: OTHER ASPECTS OF THE APPROVED CENTRE

OVERALL CONCLUSIONS

Although it was encouraging to find that some residents from the Kilbarrack East sector had Individual care plans as defined in the Regulations, it was unsatisfactory that all residents had not.

Documentary evidence of nursing staff discussions during a team meeting in regard to one particular resident's need for an individual care plan was taken by the Inspectorate.

What initially appeared to the Inspectorate during the August inspection as a lack of understanding by that sector that individual care plans are required under the Regulations for Approved Centres 2006, which is a Statutory Instrument under the Mental Health Act 2001, now appears as reluctance by that sector to comply.

RECOMMENDATIONS 2009

- 1. Kilbarrack East sector must implement individual care plans for all residents immediately.*